

## Robert L. Ord, III

*Since taking office a little over a year ago, Dean Bob Ord has redefined the direction of the School of International Graduate Studies (SIGS). Here, he introduces you to SIGS and speaks of its importance and some of its contributions to the security of our Nation..*

### **Innovative New Programs -- Meeting Today's Challenges**

Editor's note: Robert Ord, a former three-star general in the U.S. Army, was selected to be the first Dean of SIGS on October 8, 2002. He retired from the Army after serving as the Commanding General, US Army, Pacific.

### **Homeland Defense and Security, Bosnia, East Timor, Afghanistan, Iraq. . .**

The new security challenges that our nation confronts in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century demand new response capabilities, require effective civilian and military interagency alliances (local, State, Federal), and cooperation from our Allies/friends.

The Naval Postgraduate School of International Graduate Studies (SIGS) is in the forefront in equipping its students with specialized knowledge and skills to face these security challenges.

The mission of SIGS is to educate the next generation of U.S. and international leaders and to equip them with new approaches, new insights, and new problem-solving tools that could be immediately applied to their current and/or future jobs in defense/foreign policy areas.

Our unique and innovative programs are geared towards real world situations. Take for instance, the *Homeland Defense & Security Masters Degree Program*. In partner-



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ship with the U.S. Department of Homeland Security, NPS is the *first* and the *only* Homeland Defense and Security Masters Degree program that is endorsed and funded by the new Department of Homeland Security.

### **National Security Relevance**

To meet today's new security challenges, we have:

- A joint partnership with the U.S. Air Force to enhance officers' defense decision making and planning.
- A masters degree program that enhances U.S. cooperation with conflict countries, in post conflict security building.
- A unique program that enables us to provide education to deployed forces at sea and in ports.
- A program that teaches foreign countries how to combat terrorism, and many other unique programs.

### **Our Goal Educate the next generation of U.S. & international leaders**

Our global reach is extensive.

- *In-residence (at NPS):* We have over 345 officers from over 53 countries.
- *Mobile Education Teams (MET).* Intensive 1-4 weeks seminars tailored to meet the needs of a country. Thus far, our instructors have taught in over **153** countries.

Our U.S. students (military and civilians) gain a unique experience—they study along side *future leaders* from other countries. This pays huge dividends in their overseas assignments and in furthering U.S. bilateral relationships.

The dynamics of international politics is ever changing. SIGS is there to provide students with the knowledge and skills to face today's new challenges. ***I look forward to welcoming you to SIGS.***

About Dean Ord: Ord began his military service as a young infantry officer and soon fought in Vietnam. He later commanded the very division that took him to war, the 25th Infantry Division, U.S. Army, Pacific, as a two-star general. He distinguished himself as a personnel and strategic planner, while serving as the Commanding General, U.S. Army Personnel Command, and as a senior combat leader during the invasion of Panama in 1989, with the 7<sup>th</sup> Infantry Division. Ord retired after 34 years of service. He is a graduate of West Point and The Georgia Institute of Technology.